

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An authentication method and system provides an improved authentication scheme. The authentication scheme can be flexibly applied for authenticating various classes of users for access to information having various levels of security or sensitivity. One method includes receiving a request from a user for a portal content component. In response, an authenticator determines whether the user has satisfied a previous authentication requirement for the portal that is equal to or greater than an authentication requirement for the portal content component. If so, the requested portal content component is rendered. Accordingly, the disclosed approach conserves valuable authentication resources.

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